



THE FOSSA

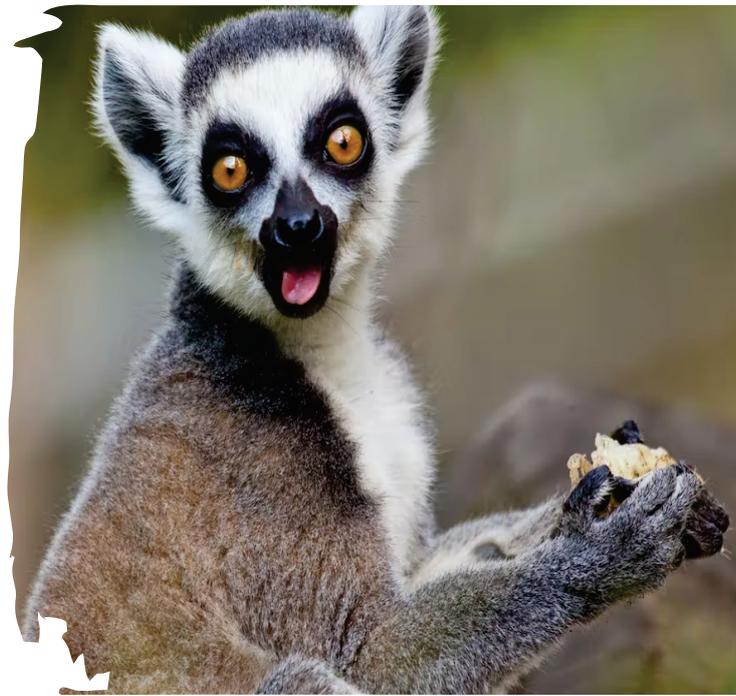


Fossa

Tara was intrigued to learn more about the main predator of Madagascar, the fossa. She picked up a nature magazine and began reading about it. According to the article, fossas can be found in various parts of the country, but they mostly inhabit remote and isolated areas, making them rarely seen. The article described fossa as a carnivorous mammal that is closely related to the mongoose family, despite its cat-like appearance. Fossas are medium-sized creatures with slender bodies, sharp claws, large round ears, long snouts, and very long tails. They live both on the ground and in trees, inhabiting widespread forested areas across Madagascar. Fossas are active both during the day and at night, but they are generally more active at night. They feed mainly on lemurs, which made Tara feel sorry for the lemurs, but she remembered

Hi!
I am Tara





that it's natural for one animal to be another animal's food, and it's how nature maintains the population of animals.

Tara realized that the fossa's survival is dependent on the availability of forest cover and prey, including lemurs. With the loss of forest cover and dwindling lemur populations, fossas are struggling to find food and are becoming less abundant. This situation has led fossas to attack poultry, bringing them into direct confrontation with humans.

Fossa Facts

- Habitat: Tropical forests of Madagascar
- Location: Madagascar
- Lifespan: Up to 20 years in the wild
- Size: 70–80 cm (28–31 in) in length
- Weight: 5.5 – 8.6 kg (12 – 19 lb)
- Color: Golden brown with black or brown markings
- Diet: Carnivore – preys on lemurs, rodents, reptiles, and birds
- Predators: None known, but humans pose a threat to their survival
- Top Speed: Can run up to 55 kph (35 mph)
- Number of Species: 1 species of fossa

New Words

1. **Remote**- far away from where other people live.
2. **Isolated**- alone or apart from other people or things.
3. **Confrontation**- face to face meeting or clash.

Find other new and interesting words for each other, and write their meanings in your notebooks.

Comprehension

1. What is the life span of fossa?
c. trees d. ground
2. What is the main food of fossa?
e) both ground and trees.
3. What is the top speed of fossa?
4. The fossa lives on:
a. sky b. water
5. What type of a tail does fossa have?
6. Which animal/animals does fossa resemble?

Take turns to make more questions like these above for each other and answer them.

Prompts Pair up.

1. Discuss with your partner and write down the factors endangering fossa's existence.

2. Fossa Scavenger Hunt

Create a list of items related to fossas, such as pictures, facts, and physical objects like toy fossas or pictures of their prey, lemurs. Hide these items around the classroom or schoolyard, and have the other pair search for them while learning more about fossas. The pair that finds the most items wins a prize!

3. Fossa Role-Play

Act out a scenario where one person is

a fossa hunting for food, and the other person is a lemur trying to avoid becoming prey. Through the role-play, discuss the importance of predator-prey relationships in ecosystems and how they help maintain balance. Share your scenario with the class and discuss what you learned about fossas and their role in the environment.

Watch the video
on the Fossa
using the
QR code.



Watch Videos On:

www.YouTube.com/GlobalDream



Follow Us On Facebook:

www.facebook.com/GlobalDream2F2E

dignityeducation.org

740 840 6000



**DEVI
SANSTHAN**

Dignity Education
Vision International

Leave no one behind

Global Dream Disruptive Literacy is a non-profit initiative of
DEVI Sansthan: Dignity, Education, Vision International
10 Station Road, Lucknow 226001, UP, INDIA